

# Why Folk Is Opposed By Vicious Element

Record of Prosecuting Boodlers and Closing Disreputable Winerooms Displeased Lawless Voters—Better People However Approve it.

As Circuit Attorney Joseph W. Folk freed St. Louis from the chains of corruption with which the city had been bound for many years. For three years, while doing this work, not an insurance company would take a dollar's risk on his life. As Governor of Missouri he suppressed the infamous winerooms, he stamped out racetrack gambling, he enforced the liquor laws and made the saloons decent. Though he has not been Governor for 10 years, his spirit still governs and these laws are still enforced.

When he left the Governorship in 1909 he made a lecture tour of the country, one of the most successful lecture tours that any public man ever made in the history of this country. He continued to take an active part in public affairs and in civic matters, making addresses upon occasion. In 1910 the Democrats of Missouri endorsed him for President, but two years later he gave way for Champ Clark, the Speaker of the National House of Representatives. He campaigned the United States for Woodrow Wilson, the nominee that year, and was one of the principal speakers for the national Democracy. In 1913 he was appointed by President Wilson solicitor for the Department of State. There he was in charge of law matters relating to international affairs and gained an experience that will be of immense value to him in the Senate in this crisis. He then for four years was chief counsel for the Interstate Commerce Commission, one of the most important places within the gift of President Wilson. As chief counsel of the commission he conducted the investigations of the New Haven Railroad, the Rock Island Railroad and the Louisville & Nashville Railroad and other systems. He

exposed the financial rottenness of the railroad systems as then operated. These were, by far, the greatest exposures of evil in the railroad business ever known in America. The Interstate Commerce Commission, as a result of these investigations conducted by Folk, recommended to Congress that the railroads be taken over by the President and operated by the government. The railroads were taken over and the position of chief counsel for the commission was left with practically nothing to do. When the people of St. Louis, through the Chamber of Commerce, called upon him to take up the fight to free St. Louis and Missouri from the chains of unjust rate discrimination and for the abolition of the arbitrary, he decided to undertake the work, especially in view of the fact that he could in addition to that work be of service in making patriotic speeches. So he came and before Senator Stone died he had made more than 100 speeches for the Liberty Loan, the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., the War Savings Stamps and for other patriotic purposes.

The death of Senator Stone created an unexpected situation and the demand came from all over the state that he permit the use of his name as successor to Senator Stone. This demand became so strong in the form of letters, telegrams and personal visits as to be irresistible. When he found that he could complete the work of giving to the people of St. Louis and Missouri justice and unqualified rights better in the United States Senate than in private life and that in addition he could aid the President in bringing the war to a speedy and worthy close, as well as aiding in solving transportation problems, he consented that his name be used.

## CAMPAIGN OF DECEIT

Ex-Judge Spencer's Claim of Wilson Support in Democratic Counties is Exploded.

Ex-Judge Spencer is conducting a campaign of misrepresentation and deceit. The platform on which he is running, and which he wrote himself, refused to endorse President Wilson. Yet, when he goes into Democratic counties he attempts to deceive the voters into believing that he will support President Wilson if elected.

In the event of that catastrophe he knows he would do nothing of the kind—that he would go into the Republican caucus and vote for Boies Penrose of Pennsylvania as chairman of the Finance Committee and Reed Smoot of Utah as chairman of the Appropriations Committee and do everything in his power to take the control of the war out of the hands of President Wilson.

Another illustration of his hypocritical campaign is his claim that he is not saying anything about his opponent, but he takes along his man Friday to do his mud-slinging for him.

Spencer has caused to be posted all over St. Louis placards saying "Good-Bye, Joe!" This is a very contemptible campaign method, but it is an illustration of Spencer's methods. Another placard Spencer has posted up says: "Patriotism demands that you vote for Spencer." In other words, to vote for anyone else than Spencer would be unpatriotic, according to his little mind. That would mean that Spencer thinks President Wilson is not patriotic, as President Wilson certainly does not want Spencer.

This placard posted up by Spencer is an insult to the decent citizens of the state, who want to uphold President Wilson and who will not do anything to further the Spencer-Kiel-Schmoll-Weeke combine.

Spencer bases all of his hopes of election upon the colonization of negroes in St. Louis by the Republican machine and upon the hope of receiving the solid German vote upon the assumption that the Germans are all against President Wilson. This assumption on the part of Spencer is an insult to all patriotic Germans, who are loyal to the United States above Germany.

That this is true does not relieve Spencer's campaign from the odium of appealing to disloyalty and to viciousness and of being deceitful and hypocritical.

## SHOULD ELECT FOLK

Reedy's Mirror Says Note the Opposition and Trace Its Interests and Motives.

Gov. Joseph Wingate Folk should be elected United States Senator from Missouri because he is not only a big Democrat, but a small d democrat, because his democracy is Woodrow Wilson's kind of democracy, because he wants this country made safe for democracy and Democracy made safe for this country. The unanswerable argument for Folk is Folk's record. He is right on every question in which popular rights are menaced by special privilege. Note the opposition to Folk, trace its interests and motives and you will find that it roots in anti-democracy and flowers in anti-social obstructionism.—Reedy's Mirror.

# WILSON WANTS FOLK

President Says: "I Am Looking Forward With Genuine Satisfaction to Our Future Association."



The deep interest of President Wilson in the election of former Governor Folk to the United States Senate is shown in the following telegram:

WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, October 3, 1918.—Honorable Joseph W. Folk, St. Louis, Mo.—Your telegram of yesterday is warmly appreciated. Your support has always been so consistent and generous that I have been sure in any case that I might count on you. I am looking forward with genuine satisfaction to our future association.

WOODROW WILSON.

"December 12, 1917.

My Dear Governor Folk:

Thank you very much for your memorandum about the administration of the railways. It helps my thought materially.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. Joseph W. Folk, Interstate Commerce Commission."



"November 19, 1912.

My Dear Governor Folk:

Thank you warmly for your letter of November 9th, which has given me a great deal of pleasure. I think you know how much gratified I have been by your constant and generous confidence and support.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.

Hon. Joseph W. Folk, St. Louis, Missouri."

As Counsellor for the State Department and Chief Counsel for the Interstate Commerce Commission, President Wilson and Governor Folk were frequently in conference and Governor Folk is known by all to be in hearty accord and sympathy with President Wilson's aims and ideas.

Do not hamper President Wilson by sending untried and unknown men to the United States Senate. The world is on fire and only men of known and proven ability should be selected at this time.

# Citizens!! Read This:

The Constitution of Missouri, Article 8, Section 12, provides: "No person shall be elected or appointed to any office in this State, civil or military, who is not a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have resided in this State one year next preceding his election or appointment."

In arrogant defiance of this provision of our State Constitution, Henry L. ("Hank") Weeke, a prominent Republican politician, now holds the office of Commissioner of Weights and Measures.

HE IS A CITIZEN OF GERMANY!  
HE IS AN ALIEN ENEMY.

How did he obtain this office? He was appointed to it by the Republican Mayor of St. Louis.

Why does he continue to hold and enjoy this office? Because a Republican Mayor of St. Louis refuses to remove him, and those in control of the Republican party refrain from insisting upon his removal.

All of the offices of the City of St. Louis are held by Republicans. Do they approve of this insult to our citizens and breach of our fundamental law? No word of dissatisfaction comes from them.

Do the members of the Republican City Central Committee approve of this insult to our citizens and breach of our fundamental law? No word of protest comes from them.

Who are these Republican City Central Committeemen? Here are their names.

John Schmoll,  
Nat Goldstein,  
George W. Strodman,  
G. H. Oetting,  
Walter W. Bishop,  
Gabriel Roth,  
Tony Schuler,  
Gus Frey,  
Louis Becker,  
Wm. Troll,  
George Meisinger,  
Fred W. Pape,  
Charles A. Neumann,  
Frank M. Slater,

Herman Bader,  
A. C. Kunze,  
Charles A. Groeschel,  
Louis J. Becker,  
Joseph B. Thomas,  
I. Joel Wilson,  
John E. Johnson,  
J. N. McKelvey,  
Elmer L. Moon,  
Nicholas A. Polito,  
E. E. Butler,  
Robert E. Moore,  
Charles H. Pope,  
Edgar S. Nicolai.

Do the Republican candidates (headed by Nat Goldstein and Granville Hogan, the Mayor's son-in-law), who were picked by this Republican City Central Committee and who are to be voted for on November 5, approve this insult to our citizens and flaunting of our fundamental law? We have heard no word of protest from a single one of them.

Why does not the Republican Mayor remove Weeke?

Why do not these Republicans and their candidates speak out?

Those in control of the Republican party of St. Louis either favor having in office a citizen of a country with which we are at war, or fear to say that they do not. Will the citizens of St. Louis vote for a party which is controlled by such men?

The Democratic party and the Democratic candidates are unalterably opposed to such an alien enemy holding office in this country, and are opposed to any man holding any office who is not a 100 per cent American.—St. Louis Republic.

Hank Weeke is holding office by appointment from the Kiel-Schmoll-Weeke machine which is responsible for the nomination of Spencer to the Senate over Col. J. L. Torrey. Remember this Missouri voters. Would YOUR BOY be pleased to know that this machine which appoints enemy aliens to office also selects candidates for the United States Senate?

# Heavy Registration of Negroes Investigated

Canvas Shows Many Were Registered From Vacant Houses—Eighteen Policemen Assigned to Task of Running to Bay Illegal Voters

The illegal registration of negro voters in the city of St. Louis is being thoroughly investigated and it has been found that regardless of the number of colored troops that have been sent to war that the registration shows 3,000 more negro voters in the city this year than two years ago.

Policemen have been ordered to make a thorough canvass and they are finding there are many negroes registered from houses which have long been vacant. The investigation is being made under the direction of Acting Chief O'Brien, who has detailed Sergeant James King with a squad of men to the task.

The investigators went into the Eleventh Precinct of the Seventeenth Ward recently in their investigation of the negro registration. They reported that in the two blocks between 3,000 and 3,200 Pine street they found thirty-six negroes registered from those blocks were unknown at the addresses given. So far as the investigators could find out the negroes never had lived at those addresses.

On Lawton avenue, in the block between Nos. 3011 and 3142, it was reported that twenty-three negroes did not live at the addresses given on the registration books. On Laclede avenue, between Nos. 3023 and 3135, five negroes were reported unknown at the registered addresses.

Eight negroes on the registration books as living in Pine street, Laclede avenue, Lawton avenue and Garrison avenue, in the Eleventh Precinct, died long before registration day. The investigators found, they reported, that twenty-three negroes registered from the precinct had lived there less than the required three months.

It is amusing to the more decent element of St. Louis citizenship that some Republican politicians here are endeavoring to defend the heavy negro registration. It is true that some negroes moved to St. Louis from East St. Louis after the race riots there a year ago, but it is also true that several thousand negroes have been sent to the army.

This illegal registration reminds thinking citizens here of the time when Zeigenthal was mayor and so much graft and other official crookedness was rampant until exposed by Governor Folk when he was Circuit Attorney.

In discussing the registration the St. Louis Star, an independent newspaper, says:

The excessive negro registration, much of it prima facie fraudulent, is to be investigated by the police. Such investigation, however superficial and hurried, will probably result in a long list of names of men who appear to have registered without legal right or in names other than their own. A stuffed registration roll, or one not pruned of obsolete names, is a gold mine for the fraudulent voter, working under the direction of an experienced manipulator. In the past these experts have not been content to send men to the polls to vote in the names of dead men, absentees and fictitious names fraudulently put on the register, but have even had them vote the names of men who later came to the polls and found themselves marked "voted." It is to stop all this sort of fraud that this canvass is to be made and a close watch upon the polls is to be kept.

Our registration law is defective, else these things would not be possible. Two things are essential to an ideal registration law—prevention of illegal registration and complete identification of the man who offers to vote with the man who registered. Neither of these is achieved by the Missouri law. The purity of the lists would be better protected if we abandoned the local registration on a single day and permitted registration in the office of the Board of Election Commissioners any business day of the year, requiring the affidavit of two reputable citizens to the facts alleged by the person offering to register, under penalty of perjury. Then there should be such complete description and data of the registered person that it would be impossible for another to represent him at the polls.

There is not enough hunting down to the bitter end of men who register and vote fraudulently. We have a little flurry at election time and that is the end of it. The Board of Election Commissioners should be charged with the duty of purifying the register and prosecuting its violators and given the means with which to perform the task. An honest ballot is one of the foundation stones of democracy, that democracy our sons are giving their lives to protect.

## FOLK FOR SENATOR

Cassville Democrat Tells of Record in Official Life That Is So Creditable and Satisfactory.

The nomination of Joseph W. Folk by the Democrats of Missouri for United States Senator is gratifying to real Democrats and lovers of good government everywhere.

His record as Circuit Attorney of St. Louis, where he exposed and prosecuted corruption in official life, made him a national figure.

As Governor of Missouri he put Missouri in the front rank of the progressive states by securing the enactment of the initiative and referendum, state-wide primary laws, child labor laws, public service corporation laws, by taking the police of the large cities out of politics, by suppressing gambling, winerooms and by enforcing the liquor laws in the face of the determined opposition of the powerful brewery and liquor interests.

These things made the name of Joseph W. Folk a synonym for good government. After the election of

President Wilson, Joseph W. Folk was made solicitor for the Department of State. He there became familiar with those great principles of international law, the knowledge of which will enable him to render services in the Senate in this great international crisis.

For four years he was chief counsel of the Interstate Commerce Commission and is regarded as one of the leading experts in America on transportation questions. In the Senate he will, of course, be a member of the Interstate Commerce Committee and will be of tremendous assistance in solving those transportation questions which will be so pressing for solution during the war and after the war is ended.

No matter how good a man the Republican opponent of Gov. Folk may be, there should be no hesitancy on the part of the patriotic citizens of Missouri of all parties in casting their votes for Joseph W. Folk, thus declaring that they favor good government, the elimination of graft, the enforcement of the laws and the upholding of President Wilson.

